



COMMISSION NEWS

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION, 1200 W. WASHINGTON, PHOENIX, AZ 85007

TO: EDITORS, NEWS DIRECTORS
FOR: IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: August 15, 2007
CONTACT: Heather Murphy (602) 542-0844

ACC OFFERS “FSI: FRAUD SCENE INVESTIGATOR” PROGRAM New Online Program Teaches Students to Fight White-Collar Crime

PHOENIX – The Arizona Corporation Commission today announced the availability of a free, innovative online investor education program that teaches students how to fight investment fraud.

“*FSI: Fraud Scene Investigator* is an interactive program that teaches and empowers students how to detect and stop investment fraud, using a resource they’re most familiar with – the Internet,” said Chairman Mike Gleason.

The program, along with a corresponding guide for teachers, is available free to educators for use in classrooms. Parents can also explore the site for lessons they can share at home.

The learning tool was developed by the North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA).

“The Arizona Corporation Commission is a NASAA member and we were one of six states that participated in the task force developing the FSI program,” Commissioner Bill Mundell explained. “Here at the Commission, we have made investor education a priority.”

The FSI program is linked at the NASAA website (www.nasaa.org). It will help students learn how to:

- Understand an investment account statement.
- Examine a company’s stock chart and trading activity.
- Research a brokerage company/individual broker.
- Identify a common investment scam.

“Everyone wins when investors are financially savvy. Not only is the individual less likely to fall victim

to fraud, but the entire community benefits as a whole,” Commissioner Jeff Hatch-Miller said. “We can talk about scams that are out there but people also need to know how to shield themselves against fraud.”

In the initial FSI program, titled “Suitable Investments,” students help uncover a million-dollar fraud in progress and put the mysterious con man, “Mr. X,” behind bars. Along the way, students learn how to read stock reports, research companies and decipher the warning signs of fraudulent sales pitches.

The *FSI Resource Guide for Teachers* offers pre- and post-program student assessment surveys, definitions of investment terms, quizzes and additional materials. Teachers also get suggestions for class discussions on how to research a company, what to look for in a company’s prospectus and how to read a balance sheet.

“Prevention and education is a two way street. You can educate but you also have to give people the tools for prevention. The *FSI: Fraud Scene Investigator* program fills this need with fun lessons on both topics,” said Commissioner Kristin Mayes.

The Commission’s Securities Division is working with educators to integrate the FSI program into schools throughout Arizona. “Arizona is fortunate to have a full-time investor education coordinator who is available to assist teachers by providing presentations, supplemental materials and answering questions about the program and guide,” Commissioner Gary Pierce said.

In cooperation with NASAA, the Newspaper Association of America Foundation will assist in making the FSI program available to teachers throughout the United States through its Newspaper in Education (NIE) network of newspaper websites and resources.

Jim Abbott, Vice-President of the Newspaper Association of America Foundation, echoed the Commission’s belief in developing financially savvy students through support of programs like *FSI: Fraud Scene Investigator*. He commented how the program will not only enhance students’ understanding of investment fraud but also the importance of using verifiable information available through online news sources.

###